

by the way

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Rewald the writer *8/28/93*

While today he is renowned in other ways, Ronald R. Rewald a few years ago was perhaps best known to us and many others as a sometime writer of letters to the editor.

In October of 1978, for example, he wrote to ask: "How long can Americans stand by and watch the slaughter of millions of Cambodians by the Khmer Rouge government of Premier Pol Pot?"

The letter praised Lon Nol, the exiled Cambodian president who had lived here for a time, for his concern about the refugees from that country. Rewald had bought Lon Nol's Hawaii Kai house the year before.

Next Rewald took on a perennial local issue, saying: "The use of pidgin as an acceptable means of communication cannot be tolerated by any of us who care what happens to our children."

In early 1979, he suggested that the energy children put into fun runs or walks for charity might better be combined with litter cleanups or other useful community work projects.

There was a December 1978 letter from him in The Advertiser, saying: "I think Carter would do well to direct his criticism not at the CIA and other intelligence gathering organizations, but at the Congress and the media. The CIA in particular has long been too easy a target for headline-seeking politicians and journalists."

The last letter we find was in May of 1980 to the Star-Bulletin. It was on the same general subject, saying in part: "Our nation has dangerously disarmed itself by making it impractical for the CIA to undertake clandestine operations."